

TODDY SHOPS—SYSTEM OF LICENSING.

74. Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Ezhuvas-Trichur): Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) when the present system of auctioning single shops publicly was adopted ;

(b) whether before the present system was put into practice the monopoly for selling toddy was given to a single contractor for a taluk or taluks ;

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, when this monopoly system was started and for how many years it worked ;

(d) whether there is any Government Proceedings changing the monopoly system and adopting the present practice ;

(e) if there is a Proceedings, will the Government be pleased to print and place on the table of each member a copy of the Proceedings ?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Commissioner of Excise): (a) The present system of auctioning toddy shops independently was introduced in the Taluks of Trichur, Talappalli and Chittur with effect from 1088, and in Cochin-Kanayannur, Cranganur and Mukundapuram with effect from 1092.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is not possible to specify the dates and periods. The system might at any rate have been in existence and continued for many years prior to 1088 and 1092.

(d) Yes.

(e) Copies of the Proceedings are placed on the Council table.

TODDY SHOPS—BIDDING BY SAME CONTRACTOR.

75. Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Ezhuvas-Trichur): Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether more than 7 toddy shops were auctioned or taken under tender by one contractor during the last three years and for 1115 ;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, the names of such contractors, and the shops given to them and the auction amounts of each shop ;

(c) similar statistics for the tobacco shops ;

(d) whether the Government have received communications protesting against the practice of giving a number of shops to the same contractor ?

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